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La Porte police garage sale to raise funds for Blue Santa, Explorer youth program



Community service outreach efforts have become common among the members of La Porte's Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association, as well as the police agency's youth Explorers in recent months.

In step with such activities, on April 21st, 2012 the organization will host its 2nd Annual Blue Santa Garage Sale from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the La Porte Police Department (3001 North 23rd Street.) As an added bonus, the youth Explorer group will be outside of the police station washing attendees' cars during the event.

Funds raised from the Blue Santa Program go toward purchasing new toys for less fortunate children during the Christmas season. Last year, the Alumni Association linked with the La Porte Neighborhood Center, Inc. where the donated toys were wrapped and distributed by both association members and other community volunteers.

Through fundraisers such as the garage sale, the association was able to distribute numerous toys to needy children last year, including some 90 bicycles provided through the Elves and More Program. All in all, the group's efforts touched the lives of more than 150 families, allowing hundreds of children to experience the joy of Christmas.

For this year's event, association members will give a repeat performance and begin collecting garage sale-type items at the police department on Friday, April 20. All items will be priced and then sold the following day in order to raise funds for the Blue Santa Program.

In conjunction with the Blue Santa Garage Sale, the La Porte Police Department Explorer Post will hold a car wash to raise money for upcoming state-based Explorer competitions. Funds collected have the potential to cover both entry fees for the youth group, as well as added travel costs and any unforeseen equipment issues which may arise.

For more information on the alumni association's activities, log onto http://www.lpcpaaa.org/blue-santa-2012/. Or, if you have any questions regarding the La Porte Police youth Explorer program, contact Officer Roger Gonzalez at 281-842-3183.